6. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration varies in a range between about 0.2 g and 0.3 g.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration is an exponential function of the vehicle speed.

11. (amended) The system of claim 9 wherein, to set the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration, the controller is operative to decrease the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration as the vehicle speed increases.

12. (amended) The system of claim 9 wherein, to set the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration, the controller is operative to increase the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration as the vehicle speed decreases.

14. (Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration varies in a range between about 0.2 g and 0.3 g.

15. (amended) The system of claim 9 wherein the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration is an exponential function of the vehicle speed.

Remarks

The present application is a continuation of co-pending application U.S.S.N. 09/867,824 filed May 30, 2001 ("the parent application"). Claims 1-16 as filed in this application are the same claims 1-16 originally filed in the parent application. By a Preliminary Amendment filed in the parent application, the Applicants canceled claims 2 and 10 without prejudice.

By this Preliminary Amendment, the Applicants have canceled claims 2, 5, 10 and 13 without prejudice. As a result, claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11, 12 and 14-16 are now pending.